

No. 748,420.

PATENTED DEC. 29, 1903.

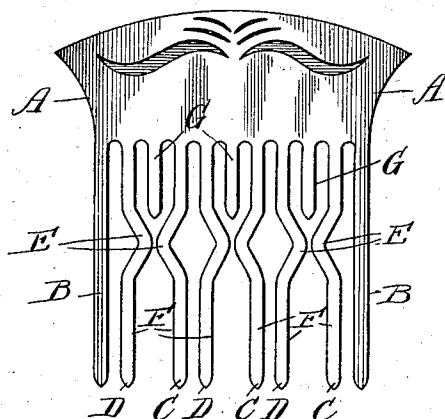
M. H. RICHARDSON & G. F. WRIGHT.

COMB.

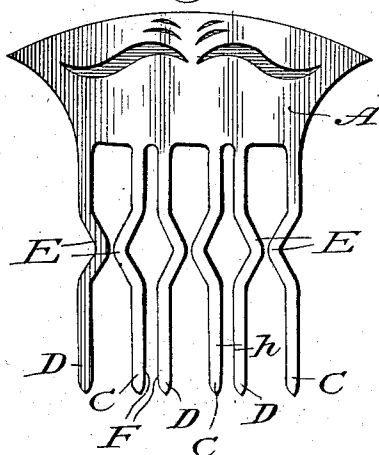
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 16, 1903.

NO MODEL.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMB.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 748,420, dated December 29, 1903.

Application filed January 16, 1903. Serial No. 139,271. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, MYRON H. RICHARDSON and GEORGE F. WRIGHT, citizens of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Safety Hair-Combs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to safety hair-combs. The object of the invention is to provide a safety hair-comb which is simple and efficient in construction and when in use exerts a clamping action upon the hair, so as to be prevented from becoming accidentally disengaged or detached.

Other objects of the invention will appear more fully hereinafter.

The invention consists, substantially, in the construction, combination, location, and arrangement of parts, all as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, as shown in the accompanying drawings, and finally pointed out in the appended claims.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is an elevation of a comb embodying the principles of our invention. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing a modified form of comb embodying the principles of our invention.

It is among the special purposes of our invention to provide a form and construction of hair-comb—such, for instance, as is employed by ladies—wherein the action of inserting the teeth of the comb into the hair and the introduction of the hair between the teeth of the comb causes said teeth to be sprung or clamped together toward each other, so as to exert a clamping or gripping action upon the hair, thereby efficiently retaining the comb in place and preventing the same from becoming accidentally dislodged or detached and securely retaining the same in its proper place.

In carrying out our invention we provide a comb having a body part (indicated by a reference-sign A) which may be of any suitable material, construction, and shape or of any suitable ornamentation, style, or design and provided with teeth (designated by reference-sign B) at the sides or edges thereof, such teeth being straight comb-teeth. Intermediate the side or edge teeth B the body portion A is provided with a series of teeth, (indicated by

reference-signs C D,) preferably arranged in pairs, as shown. The members of each pair of teeth C D, at a convenient point intermediate the length thereof, are provided with oppositely-presented bends or projections E. These bends or projections being presented toward each other afford a limited space between the members of the cooperating pairs of comb-teeth, so that when the comb is inserted into the hair such hair entering this limited space between the oppositely-presenting bends or projections will serve to force or spread apart the teeth. Adjacent to their free ends each tooth of the comb is provided with a portion of considerable length (indicated by reference-sign F) lying parallel to each other—that is to say, the straight portion F of a tooth C of a pair of teeth C D is arranged to extend in close proximity to and parallel with the straight surface or portion F of tooth D of the next adjacent pair of teeth. Thus it will be seen that when the comb is inserted into the hair and the hair entering the limited space between the bends or projections E, thereby forcing or spreading apart the cooperating members of the pairs of teeth, the straight parallel surface F of the teeth thus spread apart or separated will be brought toward and against the straight or parallel portion F of the proximate tooth of the next adjacent pair of teeth, thereby causing the straight parallel portion F thereof to exert a clamping or gripping action upon the hair to clamp the same therebetween. If desired, we may provide auxiliary short teeth (indicated by reference-sign G) arranged to project or extend from the body portion A into the space between the members of each pair of teeth C D, as clearly shown, the free end or point of the auxiliary teeth G terminating in suitable proximity to the limited space formed by the bends or projections E, as clearly shown in the drawings. The provision of these auxiliary short teeth causes the hair which has been passed through the limited space between the bends or projections E to be spread apart and to be crowded against the sides or edges of the long teeth of the comb in the space between said long teeth adjacent to the body of the comb or between the bends or projections and the body of the comb, thereby aiding in securing

the clamping effect of the teeth with respect to each other at their outer or free ends. These short auxiliary teeth also aid in retaining the comb in the hair and preventing the same from becoming accidentally dislodged or detached. It is obvious that these auxiliary teeth may, if found desirable, be dispensed with, as shown in Fig. 2. It is also obvious that, if desired, the outer straight teeth B may also be dispensed with, as shown in Fig. 2.

As above stated, the material out of which the comb and its teeth is made is unimportant and non-essential so far as the principles of our invention are concerned, any suitable or ordinary material accomplishing the desired object.

Having now set forth the object and nature of our invention, what we claim as new and useful and of our joint invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A safety-comb, comprising a back portion and a series of resilient teeth projecting therefrom, and arranged to be movable together in coöperating pairs at the free end portion thereof, cam projections upon a portion of the teeth and arranged to throw the adjacent coöperating pairs of teeth toward one another at their free ends, whereby the hair is positively clamped at the said free ends, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A safety hair-comb having a plurality of pairs of resilient teeth, projections upon a plurality of said teeth constricting one of the spaces adjacent thereto and leaving a space adjacent to each constricted space, unconstricted, each tooth having outwardly-presented straight parallel portions adjacent the free ends thereof, forming clamping-surfaces, the straight clamping-surface of each member of each pair of teeth coöperating with the straight parallel clamping-surface of the proximate member of the next adjacent pair of teeth, to grip or clamp the hair therebetween when the members of each pair of teeth are spread apart or separated by the insertion of the comb in the hair and the crowding of the hair into the constricted spaces, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A safety hair-comb having a plurality of

pairs of teeth, the members of each pair of teeth having bends intermediate their ends, said bends extending inwardly toward each other and having outwardly-presented straight parallel portions adjacent the free ends thereof, forming clamping-surfaces, the straight clamping-surface of each member of each pair of teeth coöperating with the straight parallel clamping-surface of the proximate member of the next adjacent pair of teeth to grip or clamp the hair therebetween when the members of each pair of teeth are spread apart or separated by the insertion of the comb in the hair and the crowding of the hair between the inwardly-projecting bends in said teeth, as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A safety hair-comb provided with teeth having means for automatically clamping the free ends thereof to the hair when inserted in the hair, in combination with auxiliary short teeth arranged between said automatically-clamping teeth, as and for the purpose set forth.

5. A safety hair-comb having teeth arranged in pairs, the members of each pair of teeth having oppositely-presented bends or projections intermediate their ends and having coöperating clamping-surfaces at the free ends thereof and auxiliary short teeth arranged between such members adjacent to the body of the comb, as and for the purpose set forth.

6. A safety hair-comb having a plurality of teeth arranged in coöperating pairs, means operated by the hair of the user when the comb is inserted in the hair for spreading apart the free ends of the members of each pair of teeth by the insertion of the comb in the hair, each tooth of each pair of teeth coöperating with the proximate member of the next adjacent pair of teeth to exert a clamping action upon the hair at the free ends thereof, as and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands, this 14th day of January, 1903, in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

MYRON H. RICHARDSON.  
GEORGE F. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. SEEM,  
S. E. DARBY.